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THE JELLY-FISH NATION.

The following extract from a poem published by Joss Chinchinsoff comes so near interpreting the true attitude of the celestials toward themselves and the rest of the world that we feel justified in offering it to our readers:

Where the Rulers reek nought of their Country—and the Country reeks
nought of itself;
Where each takes no thought of the other, and the Government key-word
is "Pelf";
Where, down through their prejudiced ages, they're taught (and herein
lies their fate)
To regard everything that is Foreign with a stubborn, implacable hate.
Yet the items that make up this nation are men with grand traits of their
own;
And their faults are faults that are taught 'em, and the blame is their
Leaders' alone.
When the Chinaman shakes off his country, no matter what country he
chooses;
He expands—and there's no one can stop him—He gains—his competitors
lose.
You may tax, and re-tax, and poli-tax him; you may pour out new laws on
his head,
But while those that tax him are starving—he's housed and he's clothed
and he's fed;
And hidden somewhere in his hovel is a hoard that grows steadily more,
Till your wealth has been sapped to enrich him, and he's rich, inasmuch as
you're poor.

Still, all this is proof of his value. If he didn't go scouring the foam;
Were his energies used for his country by his Rulers that cramp him at
home;
Were his 'go' made a State monopoly and his 'push' conserved with care,
There's the material for making a Nation—presentable anywhere.
Yes; give these poor Devils the Leaders, to open their closed-up mind;
To give them a hand, who have struggled so long so helplessly blind.
Give them the chance at home that they find for themselves elsewhere,
And the Star of the Jelly-fish nation 'mid others would shine as fair.

FOREIGN NEWS

Preparation for War.

LONDON, July 27.—The Shanghai correspondent of the London Telegraph, telegraphing yesterday says:
"Trade in Shanghai is so paralyzed that the customs revenue will not suffice to secure the payment of the next installment of the foreign loan."
"Meanwhile active preparation in the Yangtse region for war are in progress—not for war against the rebels, but against the foreign powers. Junkloads of Chinese soldiers and Boxers disguised as coolies are arriving daily. The Arsenal is full of arms and supplies are constantly coming in. The Nanking and Wuchang garrisons are being constantly reinforced, and the Viceroy admits that they cannot much longer withstand the pressure brought to bear by Sheng and Li Hung Chang upon them to join their forces with Prince Tuan."
"It is hoped that the arrival of Admiral Seymour may stiffen the backs of the foreign viceroys and restore the security of the port."
"Two English missionary ladies, Miss Whitcomb and Miss Searrell, have been murdered at Hsiao, in the Province Shansi. Massacres are also reported from Tai-Yuan and Paotingfu."

Massacre to be Concealed.

LONDON, July 27.—The Daily Mail publishes this dispatch from its special correspondent:
"SHANGHAI, July 26.—The proposal made by the Chinese Government to the American Consul, through Taotai Sheng, that hostilities against the Chinese should cease upon condition that the foreign Ministers were sent under escort to Tientsin, appears to be part of a deep-laid plan to conceal the date of the massacre and the duplicity of officials who, being in possession of the news, suppressed it. The story will be that the Ministers all left Peking under a strong escort, but were set upon by a mob of Boxers. We shall be told that, although the Chinese soldiers fought bravely, they were overcome and all were massacred."

Reported Japanese Victory.

LONDON, July 27.—The Daily Telegraph publishes the following from its special correspondent:
"Tokio, July 27.—It is reported that on the 22nd instant, a Japanese force of 15,000 succeeded in landing at Shanhai-kwan, and gained a great victory."

Massacre at Mukden.

LONDON July 27, 4:30 A. M.—The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Mail, describing the massacre at Mukden, says:
"The Bishop had armed 200 converts to defend the Cathedral and a body of Chinese troops had been sent to defend the converts, but the soldiers were leagued with the Boxers. While the Christians were holding a service the signal was given, and the soldiers and Boxers surrounded and set fire to the church, putting the escaping worshippers to the sword. The Bishop was captured and taken to the Viceroy's yamen, where he was diabolically tortured and decapitated. His head now hangs in front of the yamen."

Boer Success.

LONDON, July 26.—Lord Roberts reports to the War Office to-day that General Archibald Hunter's command was heavily engaged on July 24 and 25 in the hills south of Bethlehem. The Boers compelled the British to retire from their position, with about fifty casualties.

Says They are Alive.

LONDON, July 26.—The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, telegraphing yesterday says:
"Li Hung Chang now states that some members of the legation have already left Peking and may be expected shortly. He is becoming angry at the skepticism of the consuls. The impression is gaining ground that the Ministers of the powers to whom China has applied for mediation may be alive."

TELEGRAPHIC ITEMS

It is claimed that the mother lode of the Alaska mining district has been discovered.

There is alarm in England at the immense amount of coal being shipped from Great Britain to France.

The Imperial Chinese Government is unable longer to conceal the fact that it is preparing for war against the civilized world.

The Eretoria, the largest wooden boat ever built, has been launched on Lake Michigan. She will carry 175,000 bushels of wheat.

W. W. Rockhill has been appointed a special commissioner from the United States, to go to China to investigate and report on the situation.

Admiral Kemff makes a manly and successful defense of his action in refusing to join in taking possession of the Imperial railway and the Taku forts.

Chinese gunboats infest the channel at the back of Shameen. Eighteen Chinese gunboats lie below the Imperial Government wharf awaiting orders.

The Colombian government will have to answer to Great Britain for the death from bad treatment in jail of Reginald Paris, a political prisoner.

The Kreuz Zeitung asserts that the present difficulties in the way of a united advance upon Peking are even greater than the military difficulties.

It is reported from Tientsin that the Chinese are concentrating at the village of Getsang, ten miles north of Tientsin, where large quantities of rice are stored.

There is not a missionary or business man left in the interior of China, all having either left in haste upon calls sent out by the consuls or else having fallen victims to the Boxers.

Colonel Armatoff, of the Russian General Staff, a well known traveller, has been ordered to proceed to Kwang-Tung and then place himself at the disposal of the Governor of Port Arthur.

Col. Moreland, under instructions from Col. Willcocks, attacked a large war camp at Kokofu, Ashantee, captured and destroyed it and captured a large amount of arms and ammunition.

The Korean government has protested against the presence of the Russian refugees at Wija, and the Russian government has agreed to remove them to Port Arthur without delay.

McArthur cables the establishment of another municipality in the Philippines, at Vigon on the northwest coast of Luzon, under the terms laid down by the Philippine Commission.

Cuba is likely to become a nominally independent republic, with certain reservations which will make the island a self governing colony of the United States within six or eight months.

In the opinion of the Russian General Staff, the protective force on the railway between Charbin and Tientsin must be in a critical position, as no definite news from there has been received.

While no proclamation has been issued declaring the Filipinos in arms to be outlaws, the American troops are practicing in spots in the Philippines a policy beside which bandit law is a tame affair.

The Italian bishop and three priests at Hen Sing Fu, southern Hunan, were murdered by the Chinese, after revolting torture, on July 4. Six hundred converts were massacred, after being subject to hideous brutalities.

After a desperate all-night battle between the government troops and the revolutionists at Panama, in which the loss on both sides was terrific, and in which the revolutionists suffered defeat, a treaty of peace was signed, on July 26.

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